Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 237561

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ORIGIN MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 AGR-05 AGRE-00 SS-15

SP-02 PER-01 ABF-01 NSC-05 OMB-01 /049 R

R 241744Z SEP 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AODE, EAGR, GT

SUBJECT: MODE - REQUIREMENTS FOR APHIS RESIDENT STAFF IN GUATEMALA $\,$

R-F: (A) STATE 184288 26 JULY 76; (B) GUATEMALA 5431; (C) GUATEMALA A-150, AUGUST 25, 1975

- 1. APPRECIATE HELPFUL RESPONSE IN YOUR 5431.
- 2. FURTHER STATE DEPARTMENT ACTION ON THE PROPOSED HOOF AND MOUTH DISEASE AGREEMENT (REF C) AWAITS RESOLUTION OF SEVERAL ISSUES HERE, INCLUDING DECISION ON ESSENTIALITY OF HAVING A RESIDENT APHIS VETERINARIAN. USDA JUSTIFICATION QUOTED PARA TWO STATE 184288 STATES THAT HOST GOVERNMENTS HAVE REQUESTED RESIDENT VETS, BUT AVAILABLE RECORD SUGGESTS GOG ROLE HAS BEEN LARGELY IF NOT TOTALLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 237561

PASSIVE. SINCE APHIS PROPOSAL IF APPROVED NOW WOULD

REQUIRE MODE CEILING INCREASE WORLDWIDE, DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S CANDID ASSESSMENT WHETHER RESIDENT VET IS TRULY REQUIRED TO COVER USG COMMITMENTS OR VITAL INTERESTS, AND IF SO, HOW SOON. WHEN WILL JULIO CABRERA COMPLETE AFTOSA TRAINING IN BRAZIL? CAN EMBASSY COMMENT ON SIZE AND COMPETENCE OF GOG ANIMAL QUARANTINE DEPARTMENT STAFF AND ITS CAPABILITY TO CARRY OUT ADEQUATE SURVEILLANCE

AND PREVENTIVE PROGRAM WITH ONLY TDY, USG TECHNICAL ADVICE? APHIS OFFICIALS HERE ASSERT HOST GOVERNMENT'S ARRANGEMENTS LACK FOLLOW-UP AND DEPENDABILITY, THUS REQUIRE A RESIDENT US VETERINARIAN.

- 3. WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED AN ADDITIONAL APHIS REQUEST TO CLEAR AND COMPLETE AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR PREVENTION OF FRUIT FLY. ACCORDING TO APHIS, GOG MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HAS ALREADY AGREED TO THIS DOCUMENT. WE UNDERSTAND APHIS INTENTION IS TO ESTABLISH RESIDENT USG STAFF IN GUATEMALA OF TWO AMERICANS AND 16 FOREIGN NATIONAL ASSISTANTS. SO FAR AS WE KNOW, THIS PROJECT ALSO ENVISAGES WORLDWIDE CEILING INCREASE FOR USDA.
- 4. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S VIEWS CONCERNING THE NECESSITY, URGENCY AND TIMING FOR COMMITTING USG RESOURCES IN THIS MEASURE. IS THERE INDICATION OF NUMBERS AND KINDS OF GOG PERSONNEL TO BE COMMITTED AS WELL AS A SCHEDULE FOR PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION? KISSINGER

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To: GUATEMALA

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